

# Falcon Flyer

Falcon Primary School Community e-news



Principal: Ms Jacquie Abbiss Friday 13 December 2024



## Principal's Message

**As we wrap up 2024, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your support during what has been a year of significant progress and positive change at Falcon Primary School.**

This year, we have laid the groundwork for ongoing improvements in teaching and learning. Engagement Norms, Daily Review, and Instructional Coaching are becoming the norm in our classrooms, and the introduction of Talk for Writing, the establishment of Literacy and Numeracy Committees, and enhanced moderation practices have further strengthened our pedagogical approach. Our commitment to using data to inform teaching practices will ensure that every student's learning needs are met. The Public School Review highlighted our progress in the areas of Leadership, Teaching Quality, and Student Achievement and Progress—a reflection of the collective effort of our staff.

I extend my deepest thanks to the Leadership Team (Mrs Karyn Mort, Ms Clair Foulkes, Mrs Jane Giles, Mrs Vic French, Mrs Jenny Humble, Mrs Leanne Northey, Mr Ryan Kenny and Mrs Tiffany Hennessey), whose tireless efforts have driven improvements in Literacy, Numeracy, Instruction, Student Support, NQS, and Attendance.

The PBS Committee has also done an exceptional job promoting positive behaviour, with creative expectation videos, lessons, and whole school rewards and incentives that have enhanced our school culture.



This year saw exciting upgrades, including revitalised learning spaces, refreshed classroom furniture to Block 1, mammoth fans in the undercover area, garrison fencing along Ferguson Road, Groundsplash games in ECE & Y1 playground, new creative playground to Area 2, a dedicated archive store, an upgraded art room, new science room furniture and resources, new 75" screens in 10 classrooms as well as refreshed staffroom furniture and new display boards for the undercover area. In 2025, we will build on these improvements with revitalisation of the Library space, creative playground for Area 1, ongoing classroom furniture upgrades and a new musical siren. I am also delighted to announce that the school security will be enhanced with full perimeter fencing (excluding the oval).

Looking ahead, one of our most transformative initiatives for 2025 is the development of a Student Services Hub in the Library space. This hub will co-locate key support staff—including our School Psychologist, Chaplain, Learning Support Coordinator, and AEO—creating a centralised space for student support and triage. This support as well as the addition of a sensory room will provide students with a calming environment and support tailored to their needs.

We are also increasing Learning Support Coordinator time to better assist teachers, SNEAs and families to support our students with additional needs. Zones of Regulation will be used as a whole school approach to support development of social and emotional skills.

Further, we are significantly increasing early intervention and implementing targeted Literacy and Numeracy interventions for Pre-Primary, Year 1, and Year 2 students via three education assistants scheduled 3 days per week. This will provide intervention for up to 72 students in Literacy and 72 students in Numeracy. These changes will ensure that we address learning gaps early and give every child the best start possible.

As we approach 560+ enrolments for 2025 (up from 506 in 2022, up from 534 in 2024) our school continues to grow in numbers, reputation and community confidence. Increased yard supervision will further support safety and an orderly environment, ensuring that our expanding community thrives.



Our Christmas Concert last week was a huge success and I thank Mr Chaudhry and Reyne Woolcott for the organisation of this very enjoyable event. It was fantastic to see so many students involved as well as parents and grandparents in the crowd supporting their children and our school. It

was a fabulous way to round off the school year and in the lead up to Christmas it was so heartening to see the generosity of our parent community with their donations of toys and non perishable food items to support those less fortunate in our community.





We have recently celebrated the worthy achievements of our students at the Presentation and Graduation Assemblies in academic, sporting, arts and citizenship domains. It is very pleasing to see so many students making the most of the opportunities available to them to show their strengths and talents at Falcon Primary School.

We wish our graduating class of Year 6 students the very best success in their future endeavours as they head off to high school. They have been a wonderful cohort of students with so many aspiring young leaders amongst the group. They have certainly set a very high standard for the current Year 5 students as they progress into Year 6 in 2025.

The Year 6 Graduation lunch this week was a great way to send off our Year 6 students and I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see students in a less formal environment as we celebrated the end of their schooling at Falcon PS. We enjoyed some fun awards, speeches and highlights as we ate some delicious meals at The Cut Golf Course.



Our Year 6s also recently had a most enjoyable camp at Forest Edge in Waroona. Students made life long memories as they participated in a range of team activities. I sincerely thank our staff, Mrs Jacque Jurewicz, Mrs Kelly Penkala, Mr Jesse Hickman and Mr Cecil Fox for organising and supervising the camp.

Our Year 6 students attended Adventure World yesterday, for their very last day at Falcon PS and what a way to go out! It was a fabulous day of water fun and memory making and again I thank our supervising staff for the organisation and support of this extra curricular event.

Our Kindergarten Orientation for new students in 2025 was very successful with the Leap into Learning Program which gave students and parents a taste of the Kindy program. We thank our new Kindy parents for their attendance at both the Information session and the Leap sessions as well as the very positive feedback provided. We are excited to welcome many new families to Falcon PS in 2025.



As we move into 2025, we bid farewell to several valued colleagues:

- [Teena Dixon](#), [Debby Wiseman](#), [Paula Shanahan](#), [Julie Driver](#), and [Renae Wasley](#) are all taking a year of leave.
- [Rachel Kelly](#) transfers to Challis Primary School.
- [Asher Rhodes-McMillan](#) joins Riverside Primary School as Kindergarten teacher.
- [Maddison Down](#) embarks on a teaching adventure at Bayulu Remote Community School.
- [Angela Maxwell](#) joins Glencoe Primary School.
- [Julie-Anne O'Donohue](#), and [Steffanie Rogers](#) complete their contracts.
- [Cathy McIntosh](#) has already returned home to Queensland
- [Lorraine Newbold](#) is taking Term 1 LSL



And we bid a very special farewell to [Robyn Brady](#), who retires after 24 years at Falcon PS as Manager Corporate Services.

We also welcome new faces and talents to Falcon PS:

- [Casey Tanton](#) joins us from South Newman PS (currently on teacher exchange in Japan)
- [Dane Kruger](#) joins us from Wellard PS
- [Kathryn Smith](#) joins us from Meadow Springs PS
- [Theresa Baines](#) joins us from Ocean Road PS
- [Simone Moerman](#) brings her artistic talent to the Art role in a job share arrangement with [Michelle Jeka](#) and [Sarah Merks](#) joins us as Manager Corporate Services
- [Prue Dobbs](#) joins us as a Mainstream EA for intervention and another MEA yet to be confirmed.



I am excited to grow our Falcon staff with such quality new recruits. Additionally, Bridget Annels, Di Campman-Withers, Nicole Gill, and Sharon Taylor are returning from leave and I look forward to welcoming them back in 2025.



Thank you all for your contributions to Falcon Primary School this year. I am proud of the progress we have made and excited about our plans for ongoing improvements in 2026.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Have a safe and restful holiday period.

Warmest regards

Jacquie Abbiss **Principal**



## 2025 Important Dates !

- Wed 29 Jan** Front Office Opens 8.00am-4.00pm
- Wed 5 Feb** Students Return to School

